Chargesheet relating to Bombay Stock Exchange

2289. SHRI THENNALA BALAKRISHNA PILLAI:
SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a chargesheet related to Bombay Stock Exchange was sent to SEBI for advice;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether SEBI delayed responding to the police thus delaying the prosecution process; and

(d) if so, the details of the reasons and the action taken against the concerned officers of SEBI for delaying the prosecution?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has informed that no chargesheet relating to the Stock Exchange, Mumbai was sent to it for advice. However, SEBI has received a report from the Crime Branch of Mumbai Police pertaining to their investigations in respect of alleged fraud committed by the Gujarat Rodrel group of companies. The investigation report has also requested SEBI to examine as to whether certain decisions taken by the Governing Board of the Stock Exchange, Mumbai during the relevant reference period amounted to deliberate acts of ommissions and Commissions.

(c) SEBI has sought comments of the Stock Exchange, Mumbai on the issue raised in the investigation report. On receipt of the required information from the Exchange, SEBI would examine the matter for further necessary action.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to (c) above.

Cases pending in courts relating to Excise Duty

2290. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of cases relating to excise duty are pending in various courts of the country;

(b) whether most of such cases relate to large companies where heavy amount is involved;

(c) if so, details of such cases alongwith names of such companies as on 30th March, 1996;

(d) whether such amount involved in litigation is being used by such companies for many years; and

(e) whether Government are contemplating any amendment in excise laws by which it will be mandatory for the company to deposit the amount in bank and the interest accrued to the amount be paid to the winning party?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) There are 2664 cases relating to Central Excise disputes pending in Supreme Court involving revenue of Rs. 691.86 crores and 4426 cases pending in various High Courts involving revenue of Rs. 1382.67 crores as on 31.3.96. Out of the above only 75 cases involving revenue of Rs. 463.63 crores in respect of units paying annual revenue of Rs. 100 crores or more are pending in Supreme Court and various High Courts.

When the companies obtain stay from the Court against the recovery of dues they are free to utilise the amount. However, provisions exist in the Central Excise Act for charging interest on delayed payment of Central Excise duty after 3 months from the date of determination of such duty.

There is no proposal at present for amendment of the Central Excise Act to make it mandatory for the company to deposit the amount in bank.

Over-Subscribing to Jain T. V. Public Issue

2291. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jain T.V. Public issue have been over-subscribed;

(b) whether any public undertakings and Financial Institutions have subscribed heavily to this issue; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?